

NEWSLETTER 7

OCTOBER 2009

Boulcott Hutt project update

About the project

As part of the implementation phase of the Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan, Greater Wellington has undertaken to construct a new stopbank through the Boulcott and Hutt golf courses (the Boulcott Hutt stopbank), and to improve the river channel between the Kennedy Good and Ewen Bridges.

What's been happening?

We have been making progress with the detailed design for both the stopbank and river works. We have also been talking to, and getting feedback, from residents and members of the public as well as Hutt City Council, Transpower, Rotary, Fish and Game NZ, the Department of Conservation, and Iwi. We would like to thank those people who have taken the time to speak with us on this project to date. As a result of these meetings we have made some significant changes to the design of the stopbank and timing of the river works.

The stopbank

The drawing overleaf shows the refined stopbank alignment. The new stopbank will follow the existing stopbank from east of Mills Street to the Boulcott clubrooms before crossing the Boulcott golf course to meet the boundary of the Boulcott and Hutt golf courses. From the boundary, the stopbank will pass around the front of the Hutt clubrooms, then cross a number of holes, before generally following the residential boundary to Fairway Drive.

We are still refining the design and alignment of the stopbank at:

- Connolly Street to avoid extending the slip road.
- The Boulcott clubrooms to reduce the impact on the club and adjoining properties. Two alignments are being considered with the outcome dependent on the results of the clubs' merging of golfing interests discussions.
- The boundary between the two golf courses, adjacent to Hathaway Avenue, to reduce the impact on adjoining properties.

The golf clubs: merging of golfing interests

The Boulcott and Hutt golf clubs are discussing a potential merger of golfing interests. We expect to know the outcome of these discussions in November 2009. If this goes ahead then there could

be further changes to the stopbank alignment at the Boulcott clubrooms, as it crosses the Boulcott golf course, and at the boundary of the two golf courses.

River works

During the early stages of this project, we identified that if the river channel is widened in the vicinity of Transpower's Melling Substation then the constriction, as the floodway and river channel narrows, is substantially improved. This reduces the height of flood waters and the erosive force of the river.

As the benefits of river widening have proven to be significant we think it is a good idea to look at the design of the river channel between the Kennedy Good and Ewen Bridges, and have extended the timeframe to consult with the community as a result; consultation is happening now up until 2011.

City Centre stopbank: Mills Street

Greater Wellington recently approved a new alignment for approximately 200 metres of stopbank at the end of Mills Street; this approval enables us to include this new alignment when we prepare the detailed design and designation/resource consent application for the City Centre stopbank.

The City Centre stopbank is the next section of stopbank to be upgraded once the Boulcott Hutt stopbank is complete. The Mills Street section forms part of this stopbank.

What's next?

We need to obtain the required statutory approvals for the stopbank. We plan to have stopbank designation/resource consent

application ready in November; a copy of this will be sent to those residents directly affected by the stopbank works.

We will also hold a drop-in session at the Boulcott School before we lodge our application to give the wider community opportunity to provide us with feedback. We will let you know when this is happening.

Actual construction of the stopbank is scheduled to take place

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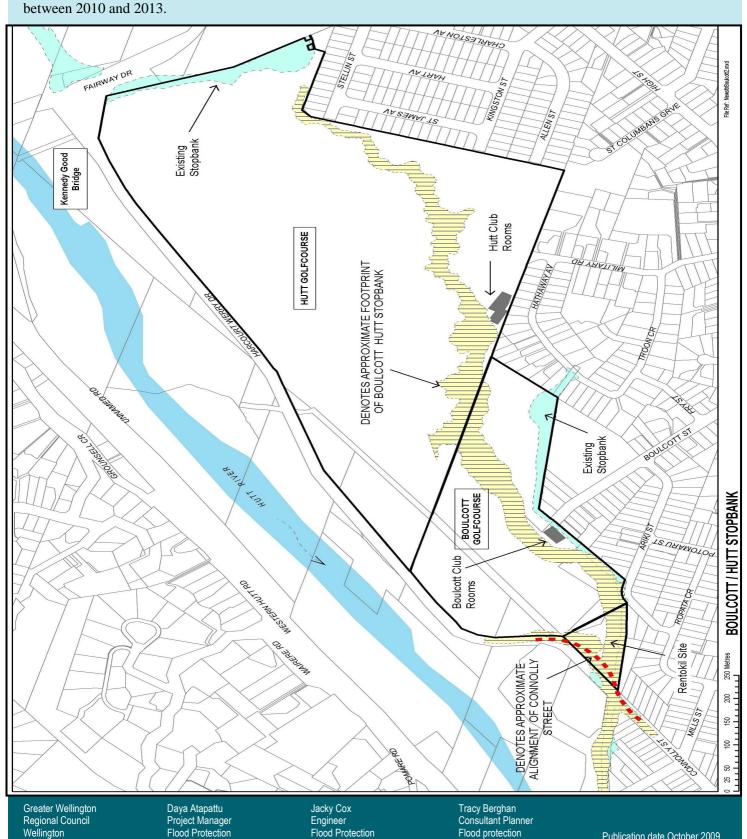
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Belmont Spring Festival

We will be at the Belmont Spring Festival if you'd like to talk to us about this project. The Festival is being held on the 17th of October from 11am to 3pm at the Belmont Domain just off SH2, north of the Kennedy Good Bridge.

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